

(Feb 6th 1846)
U.S. Branch Mint New Orleans.

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Dr R. M. Patterson }
Director U.S. Mint }

Dear Sir

I have received from our Superintendent two pair of Half dollar dies and some of smaller denomination.

I have to request that you will make some allowance for my want of experience in tempering the dies, and would remind you of their liability to crack in hardening &c. I beg therefore you will send us a sufficient number to prevent any delay for want of them, and in a short time I will inform you of my success in using them. I would thank you to state to me the number of coins that each pair should stamp when properly tempered.

As you have requested me to write you on all matters connected with the Mint, I would mention

that all think we are labouring under much
inconvenience. For want of ~~your~~ instruction
from you, in relation to the duties of the Gen-
eral Officers, and Rules of the Mint generally.

I beg you will mention particularly
of the number of hours required of the
workmen per day, including the time of
eating their dinners, which you know
is always done in the Mint and requires
but a few minutes, and whether or not, it
is customary to allow them pay for time worked
over the regular hours when it is necessarily re-
quired of them (excepting the fireman who comes
before the others to raise steam &c)

I have received through the Supt.
your instructions in regard to the size of
coins, and the only difficulty I fear, is in
preparing the proper inch.

I expect to have the quarter dollar
press in operation about the middle of March.

Very Respectfully

Your Humble Servant

Philip B. Tyler
Coiner

R. M. Patterson
Director